

REMARKS:

- 1) On the acknowledgment copy of applicant's IDS Form PTO-1149 of June 25, 2004 enclosed with the Office Action, the Examiner has not yet initialed reference "AO" all the way at the bottom of the form, perhaps by an oversight. Please consider the cited reference "AO" and return a completely initialed, signed and dated acknowledgment copy of the IDS Form PTO-1449.
- 2) The specification, which was essentially a literal translation of a corresponding foreign text, has been amended in an editorial manner to improve the idiomatic English and correct a few typographical errors and the like. These editorial corrections do not introduce any new matter. Entry thereof is respectfully requested.
- 3) All prior claims 1 to 19 have been cancelled. New claims 20 to 37 have been submitted.

New independent claim 20 is based on the combined subject matter of prior claims 1 and 4.

Claims 21 to 35 depending from claim 20 are respectively based on prior claims 2, 3, 5 to 9, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, 14, 17 and 19 in this sequence. Note that the claim order of some claims has been changed simply for better claim grouping.

New independent claim 36 is based on the combined subject matter of prior claims 1 and 10.

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Claim 37 depending from claim 36 is based on prior claim 12.

In view of the above mentioned claim correspondence, the new claims do not introduce any new matter. Entry thereof is respectfully requested.

- 4) The new claims 20 to 37 have been revised in an editorial and stylistic manner in comparison to the original claims 1 to 19, which were essentially a literal translation of corresponding foreign claims. Thereby, the idiomatic English and the typical U. S. claim style and format have been improved. Also, specific unclear aspects pointed out in the Office Action have been addressed.
- 5) After the present amendment, the claims directed to the elected invention are claims 20, 23, 26, 27 and 29 to 37, of which at least the two independent claims 20 and 36 are generic. Thus, upon the allowance of the generic independent claims, the Examiner is respectfully requested to rejoin, consider and allow the non-elected claims depending from such allowable generic claims.
- 6) Referring to the third and fourth paragraphs on page 2 of the Office Action, the objection to the Declaration is respectfully traversed. The Examiner asserted that the Declaration is defective because page 3 includes alterations that have not been initialed and/or dated. This assertion is respectfully traversed as incorrect. On page 3 of the Declaration, the third inventor (Mr. Yoshida) himself corrected the spelling of his first name

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by crossing-out the incorrect spelling "Atsuhito" and instead inserting the correct spelling --Atsuyoshi--. Mr. Yoshida also simultaneously initialed this alteration with his initials --AY-- and also dated this alteration with the date --May 25, 2003--. Accordingly, the only alteration affects one inventor's name, and was specifically initialed and dated by that inventor who made the alteration. Accordingly, the Declaration is in conformance with the requirements. Moreover, MPEP 201.03(B) and (e) and 605.04(g) points out that a typographical error in an inventor's name on the Declaration can be corrected as a mere informality without requiring a new Declaration. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the objection and the requirement for a new Declaration.

- 7) Referring to the paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action, the informalities noted by the Examiner in the original specification have been corrected in the present amendment. Please withdraw the objection.
- 8) Referring to the paragraph bridging pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action, the rejection of claims 1, 4 to 13 and 15 to 19 as indefinite under 35 USC §112, 2nd paragraph has been taken into account in the present amendment. The rejected claims have been cancelled. New claims 20 to 37 have been prepared to avoid the unclear aspects pointed out in this rejection. It is now clear in the new claims 20 to 37 that the invention is directed to the child car seat itself, while the "child" is merely recited as an unclaimed "operating environment" of the claimed car seat. As

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the new claims 20 to 37 are clear and definite in conformance with 35 USC § 112, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection.

- 9) Referring to the bottom of page 4 of the Office Action, the indication of allowable subject matter in original claims 4 to 19 is appreciated.

New independent claim 20 incorporates the allowable subject matter of prior claims 1 and 4. Thus, claim 20 and its dependent claims 21 to 35 should now be allowable.

New independent claim 36 incorporates the allowable subject matter of prior claims 1 and 10. Thus, claim 36 and its dependent claim 37 should now be allowable.

- 10) Referring to the middle of page 4 of the Office Action, the rejection of claim 1 as anticipated by DE 7918120 has been obviated by the present amendment. Claim 1 has been cancelled. All of the new claims 20 to 37 incorporate allowable subject matter from non-rejected claims as discussed above. Accordingly, please withdraw the rejection.

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]

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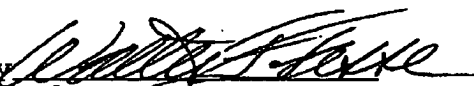
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- 11) Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application, including all present claims 20 to 37, are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Applicant

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CERTIFICATE OF FAX TRANSMISSION:

I hereby certify that this correspondence with all indicated enclosures is being transmitted by telefax to (703) 872-9306 on the date indicated below, and is addressed to: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

 12/7/04
Name: Walter F. Fasse - Date: December 7, 2004

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